

SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1950.

SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL.

Council Offices, Salcombe, South Devon.

Telephone: Salcombe 208.

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Council Offices, Manor House, Kingsbridge,
South Devon.

CLERK TO M.O.H.

Miss J. Palk.

Telephone: Kingsbridge 2004.

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SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Council Offices, Salcombe, South Devon.

Telephone: Salcombe 63.

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SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health: Dr.W.C.SMALES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health: Dr.R.H.DUMMETT, M.B., Ch.B.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector: Mr.R.LUSHER, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Mr. CHAIRMAN, MRS. RICHMOND AND GENTLEMEN;

I beg to present my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1950.

The health of the District has continued to be satisfactory.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) - 1,181.

Population - The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population - 2,477.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1950) according to the Rate Books - 884.

Rateable Value - £23,432.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate - £92.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births - Male 16.	Female 12.	Total 28.
Live (Legitimate) - Male 16.	Female 12.	Total 28.
Live (Illegitimate) - Male 0.	Female 0.	Total NIL.

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population - 11.30.

STILL BIRTHS - NIL. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still)
Births - NIL.

DEATHS - 39. Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 15.74.

Deaths (from Puerperal Causes) - NIL.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age - 1.

DEATH RATE :- All Infants per 1,000 Live Births - 26.32.
 Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births - 26.32.
 Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births - NIL.
 Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age - 1.

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH.</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
1.	Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System.	-	-
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease.	1	-
4.	Diphtheria.	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough.	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections.	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-
8.	Measles.	-	-
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	-	-
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	-	1
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	-	-
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	-
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	-	-
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	-	3
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia.	-	-
16.	Diabetes.	-	-
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	1	5
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina.	2	2
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease.	1	1
20.	Other Heart Disease.	2	7
21.	Other Circulatory Disease.	1	2
22.	Influenza.	1	-
23.	Pneumonia.	1	-
24.	Bronchitis.	1	1
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	1	-
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum.	-	-
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea.	-	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis.	-	1
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate.	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	-	-
31.	Congenital Malformations.	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases.	1	2
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents.	-	-
34.	All other Accidents.	1	1
35.	Suicide.	-	-
36.	Homicide and Operations of War.	-	-
		<u>13</u>	<u>26</u>

The conditions of occupation and of environment have not had a prejudicial influence on the general health or mortality. Salcombe is well-known as a holiday resort and yachting centre. During the summer months - June to September - the population is practically doubled by the influx of visitors.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA. The Public Health Officers of the Authority are a Medical Officer of Health (also Medical Officer of Health of the Plympton Rural and Kingsbridge Rural and Urban Districts, Kingsbridge and Salcombe Port Sanitary Authority and Medical Officer of the South Devon Water Board).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (occasional).

One full-time Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

LABORATORY FACILITIES. The Public Health Laboratory Service provide a service for the investigation of communicable disease and the examination of milk, water supplies, ice-cream and foodstuffs etc. I am grateful for their assistance and willing co-operation at all times.

PROVISION OF ANTI-TOXIN. Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available, free of cost, through the General Practitioner Service and stocks are kept at local Hospitals.

THE SOUTH HAMS COTTAGE HOSPITAL provide 16 beds for patients from Kingsbridge and the surrounding districts :-

Men's Ward	6 beds.
Women's Ward	6 beds.
Children's Cots	2.
Private Wards	2 (1 bed each).

ISOLATION HOSPITAL. Cases of Infectious Disease are sent to the Swilly Isolation Hospital. Patients are removed by the Plymouth Ambulance Service on behalf of the Devon County Council.

MIDWIVES. The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council which investigates cases of Maternal Mortality and Puerperal Disease. There is one practising Midwife in the District.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE. There is a centre in Salcombe which is open on the 1st and 3rd ednesdays in each month.

VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT. At the Venereal Disease Department, City Hospital, Plymouth. Female in-patients are also sent to St. Mary's Home, Exeter. A refund of rail or bus fare can be made in suitable cases by applying to the Medical Officer of the Centre or to the County Medical Officer.

Treatment is also available from a certain number of selected General Medical Practitioners specially approved for the purpose by the County Council and Ministry of Health. There is one such Practitioner in Modbury and another at Kingsbridge.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT is available through the Devon Association for Orthopaedics as in-patients at Exeter and Plymouth. For out-patients, there is a Clinic at Kingsbridge and the South West Clinic which deals with this district as well is held at the Mutley Hall Assembly Rooms, Plymouth.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES AND ACCIDENTS. The Devon County Council Ambulance Service provide transport for Non-Infectious Cases and Accidents.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1950.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total cases notified.</u>
Measles.	1
Whooping Cough.	1
Scarlet Fever.	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic).	1
	4

TUBERCULOSIS.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950.

<u>Years.</u>	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	<u>Respiratory.</u>	<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70 and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>TOTALS.</u>	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY. (i) The source of water for the district is at South Brent, and is supplied in bulk by the South Devon Water Board, being satisfactory in quality and quantity; (ii) 14 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results were as follows :-

MINISTRY OF HEALTH CLASSIFICATION FOR PIPED SUPPLIES.

<u>CLASS 1.</u>	<u>CLASS 2.</u>	<u>CLASS 3.</u>	<u>CLASS 4.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
9	1	3	1	14

New 3" water ring main laid at Batson affording better pressure and supply to this particular district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. The 18" sewer from the top of Allenhayes Road to the outfall at Chapel End which was started last year has been completed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. A weekly collection of refuse in all parts of the district has been carried out. The refuse is tipped in a tidal creek and nuisance and disfigurement has been caused by this material being deposited on the beaches. The problem of satisfactorily dealing with the refuse dump has been under consideration by the Council for some time, and the advice of a Consulting Engineer has been obtained. In my opinion, these present conditions should be improved without delay.

HOUSING. 5 permanent houses were completed during the year and a further 8 houses were in course of erection. The houses completed were all two-bedroom type.

FOOD SUPPLIES. The following foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption :-

323 lbs beef; 6½ lbs cheese; 11 tins fruit; 16 tins meat;
16 tins miscellaneous articles (vegetables, fish, soup etc).

BAKEHOUSES. The 4 bakehouses were inspected regularly and were kept in a satisfactory condition.

ICE-CREAM. 21 samples of Ice-cream were taken from retailers in the district and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory.

OYSTER BEDS IN THE ESTUARY. Arrangements have been completed for the laying of oyster beds in the estuary at Salcombe.

SCHOOLS. There are three schools in the district. The sanitary accommodation at two of the schools is still very poor.

During the year, 4 notices were received, referring to 22 children who were excluded from school because of communicable disease or because they were contacts.

They were as follows:- Chicken-Pox 22.

DISINFECTION. Routine disinfection has been carried out after all notified cases of Infectious Disease.

NUISANCES. 7 complaints were received, all of which were dealt with by informal action.

CAMPING SITES. A count was taken on the 1st August, 1950, of the caravans and tents in the district, and the result was as follows :-

Beacon Road.

O.S.Field No.222

18 tents.

O.S.Field No.222

2 caravans.

Hanger Mill.

O.S.Field No.355

18 tents.

O.S.Field No.354

9 tents.

O.S.Field No.363

15 tents.

Moult Hill.

O.S.Field No.369

14 tents.

O.S.Field No.401

18 tents.

O.S.Field No.401

2 caravans.

O.S.Field No.358

1 caravan.

Southern Mill.

O.S.Field No.441

3 tents.

O.S.Field No.441

7 caravans.

Various single sites in the
district.

10 caravans.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. C. SMILES.

Medical Officer of Health.

JULY, 1951.